

Hawaii Holomua

PROGRESS.

The Life of the Land is Established in Righteousness.

HONOLULU, DEC. 9, 1893.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The Supreme Court sitting as a special court to investigate the alleged misconduct of Mr. Fred Wundenberg Deputy Clerk of the court, has as was expected found the charges preferred against Mr. Wundenberg by Attorney-General W. O. Smith proven and has dismissed him from office. That the proceedings in this matter and the action of the Judges do not appear much to their credit every fair minded man will admit. The Judges had been informed months ago that Mr. Wundenberg was not in harmony with the Provisional Government, but they did not see fit to take any notice of the reports brought to them by eavesdroppers and spies, and Mr. Wundenberg whose honesty and efficiency have never been doubted was left unmolested. Then the report of Mr. Blount to the President of the United States is published, and according to the extracts made from it, it is seen that Mr. Wundenberg has furnished Mr. Blount with statements in regard to the revolution of the 17th of January which have proven of great importance in the special commissioner's efforts to arrive at the truth. The Judges of the Supreme Court immediately get on their ears, and as they could not prove anything relating to Wundenberg's statements to Blount—the latter not being available and the former refusing to admit anything,—they pick up the old reports from the different Toms, Dicks, and Harrys, and allow the assertions about Wundenberg "damning" the P. G. to become sufficient cause for his removal. That this action savors very much of petty persecution, and is rather detrimental to the dignity of the Judges don't matter to the three wise men. The "gallery" has demanded the official head of Wundenberg who is sacrificed in the usual play to the gallery characteristic of the provisional government in all its branches.

There were many interesting instances in the Wundenberg trial. Mr. C. W. Ashford blandly inquired if the country has a constitution, or not, but the question was of course considered irrelevant by the Chief Justice and not answered. If we remember rightly Mr. Ashford has been walking around like Diogenes with a lantern looking for a constitution since the 17th of January. He has searched for it in the Star chamber of the councils (in the Sheldon's contempt case), he hunted for it in the Police Court, he threw his search light out after it in all the corners of the circuit court, and he peeped even under the togas of the Supreme Judges to see if his child of 1887 was still alive or had been strangled. He advertised in newspapers for it, but no answer was received, indeed no trace has been found of

the missing link—the link between an orderly, constitutional, lawful government and the people ruled by such government. The utter failure to find the dear old constitution makes us believe that it has been secretly stricken from the records, and that the men who have "done away" with it, have prevented by threats and bribes the regulation death certificate to be issued. No funeral has taken place, though, and who knows if a resurrection is not a very possible eventuality.

At one time during the Wundenberg trial the audience looked with admiration at the Chief Justice. Mr. C. W. Ashford in his simplicity and innocence suggested that in the Western Hemisphere, a man was entitled to his opinion and entitled to openly express and criticize a government to whose support he paid his taxes, even if he was an official of it. The Chief Justice's benevolent smile disappeared, his usually beaming face was clouded, his gold rimmed glasses were trembling with indignation, while he with a choked voice and uplifted hands asked Mr. Ashford: "What! a man should have the right to criticize a government, and at the same time draw a salary!"

How truly grand, how lofty the mind of the learned Judge must be. If a man is paid for services rendered, if a man exchanges work for legitimate pay, his ability and skill for a stipulated salary, he must be muzzled, and he forfeits the right of an ordinary citizen, the right to have a voice in the governing of his country. If he insists in exercising such right and still draws his salary, the Chief Justice sends him the silken cord and invites him to use it around his official neck. And we don't live in Turkey, but we are breathing the air—except choked off—under the glorious western civilization.

But the above remarks remind us of days gone by when one certain W. M. Gibson was the minister of the government and another time when one C. C. Moreno was minister. In those days a certain A. F. Judd was a Judge of the Supreme Bench, and very regular in drawing his salary. May we now ask His Honor if there was any man in this country more outspoken, more derisive, more abusive, and hostile against the ministers mentioned than His Honor himself? And yet we have heard of no instances where he neglected to draw his salary—but we even remember him getting very angry and criticizing the cabinet and government, which he was serving very severely, because his salary at one time was paid in silver instead of gold. But then we presume that what is sauce for a Judge is not always sauce for a Wundenberg.

In the Council meeting during the debate on "the rascals" Mr. Hatch advanced some very lofty views in regard to the duties of any employee to loyally further the interests of his employer. What food for reflection this remark will give to Colonel Claus Spreckels, the bitterest opponent

of the Provisional Government, when he watches the actions of one F. M. Hatch in whose annual income he for some time past has been the main factor. But we suppose that Mr. Hatch considers theory one thing and practice very much another—and he is very fond of practice.

The Ball Set a Rolling.

The three members of the Cabinet who are the obedient servants of the political organizations have started on the road, laid out for them by the Councils last Thursday.

Mr. Geo. Smithies the registrar of public accounts, has been dismissed, and Messrs Carl Widemann and Palmer Woods have also received their walking papers. The gentlemen in question have been requested to remain in office until their successors are appointed, and we beg to submit, on behalf of the loyal citizens in Hawaii, that if they do so they are a lot of damned fools. On Monday the game of weeding out will begin in the Interior office. Minister Damon opposed his colleagues in their action of to-day but evidently lacks the moral courage to line up to his principle and walk out with the clerks whom he so far has protected. It is believed that the minister's private secretary Mr. Ashley will be appointed to the office formerly held by Mr. Smithies.

Lock the Stable When the Horse is Stolen.

The above old "saw" seems to be the rule according to which our Custom House conducts its business. Last Thursday the officers of the Australia were surprised by a visit from the Custom officials who made a most thorough search of the vessel looking into every corner and scrutinizing every cabin and every berth from the Captain's to the stoker's. The reason was that the night previous (Wednesday) to the search 150 tins of opium were landed at the O. R. R. wharf and the knowledge of it sharpened the zeal of the officials. Would it not be a good suggestion to make future searches the day prior to the removal of the stuff instead of the day after. That reminds us that the Provisional government's officials have been unusually slack in seizing opium since they got into office. Never in the history of Hawaii has opium been as cheap as it is now, and the demand so limited. \$4.00 for a tin is now the quoted price, but buyers are very scarce. There must be something radically wrong somewhere and our supernaturally virtuous rulers had better get a move on and break up the ring "which is now controlling the market and—ruining the business."

Band Concert.

The P. G. band gives a concert at Thomas Square this afternoon. Following is the programme:

1. March—"For My Country".....Ackerman
2. Overture—"The Armourer".....Lortzing
3. Gavotte—"Daisy".....Barrett
4. Finale—"Tannhauser".....Wagner
5. Waltz—"The Gondoliers".....Sullivan
6. March—"The Life Guards".....Hilge

"Hawaii Ponoi."

A Surprise in Mr. Blount's Report.

The maelstrom of indignation in some quarters, and particularly with the republican press and other newspapers which would rather condemn an action by the administration than approve it, is gradually but surely whirling itself into a complacent and deliberative mood over what they claim to be the outrageous action of the President and his Secretary of State in disclosing palpable undiplomatic conduct on the part of the last administration, coupled with connivance and fraud by persons in whom it was thought confidence could be entrusted, by which the government of a country was overturned and a party of men elevated to the head of affairs under the eyes of the greater majority of the people opposing it and against their helpless protests. If any one believes that President Cleveland and his cabinet are squirming under the severe criticisms the idea would soon be dissipated when the facts are calmly read which have led up to the programme arranged by the administration and which has no doubt been carried out peacefully before now.

The facts, which will in time be disclosed in Commissioner Blount's long and full report to the Secretary of State, will show a condition of affairs previous to the overthrow of the monarchy in Hawaii which will surprise most persons, particularly those who have been the quickest in condemning the stand assumed by the administration without knowing the real facts of the case. Commissioner Blount's report, it can be asserted on high authority, will show conclusively that the monarchical government was overthrown by preconcerted schemes of some dishonest persons, and was not the result of recalcitrants on the islands who were dissatisfied with the Queen or her administration; that the provisional government had its birth in the United States under assurances made by the parties connected with the last administration that this country would be prompt to recognize the new government, and that closer relations than existed with the monarchical government of the islands would follow.

The indignation felt over the unexpected publication of Secretary Gresham's letter led some Senators prominent in the silver fight a few months ago to seriously regard the effect it would have on the future of the administration, and, not knowing what was back of the final answer to Hawaii from the President, one of the cabinet officers was requested to explain what had been the controlling motives which had influenced the President in his ultimatum. They were assured that the public knew little of what went on just previous to the overthrow of the Queen, but that when it did, and it would at the proper time, there would be a revolution of sentiment in favor of President Cleveland's action which would be as intense as was the first wave of condemnation. Mr. Blount's report will undoubtedly come out in time, when the administration thinks it proper that the people should know of its contents, but the

wrath of the republican press and the cries from others will not bring it out a day sooner than the President deems it proper. Throughout this administration as well as his last the President has always shown himself to be a most excellent general, and this instance is not the first when he has been condemned for some alleged unpopular act. He and the Secretary have fired off only a light battery so far, but the heavier cannonading will commence later on, it was said today by an official.

The President has reserved for the convincing shells the contents of Mr. Blount's report, together with other documents in the possession of the State Department. These papers, it is said, will prove without doubt that Minister Stevens was the prime mover in bringing about the uprising which resulted in dethroning the Queen. Mr. Mott Smith is believed also to have been in the agreement, as were some other persons in the United States. Of the committee of thirteen, known as the committee on public safety, six were Americans. These were all in what is now termed the conspiracy against an unsuspecting and helpless country. Other papers with the Secretary are said to be full of evidence from every side showing the carefully planned scheme and which is unanswerable. The President and his entire cabinet are confident that when the country is in possession of these facts the whole sentiment will undoubtedly approve of his action.

In an interview a gentleman close to the President has this to say: "I do not know positively whether Mr. Blount's report will be given to the public or not, but I can assure you that the people will see wisdom and the foresight of the President in doing as he has done. These criticisms in the papers were expected, and are without knowledge of the facts by which Secretary Gresham was guided in giving his views to the President. He considered the whole matter carefully and was forced to the one and only correct conclusion—that a wrong had been done in displacing the Queen, and that it should be righted."—Washington Star.

Nan-Yu-Shasha has just received per steamer Oceanic a large variety of fancy goods all of the latest style.

Christmas Presents

The undersigned beg leave to call the attention to a large assortment of tasteful and elegant Jewelry, suitable for Christmas Presents.

Hawaiian Flag Pins, in different sizes.

Hawaiian Jewelry, a specialty.

If you want to buy an elegant and at the same time an inexpensive Christmas Present, call around and inspect my stock.

THOS. LINDSAY,
McNary Block, Fort St. Honolulu
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